

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Editor - - SYLVIA PANKHURST.

VOL. II.—No. 48.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19TH, 1916.

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Donations to be sent to Hon. Treasurer,
Dr. Tchaykovsky, Langham House,
Harrow, or Hon. Financial Sec.,
Miss N. L. Smyth, 400 Old Ford
Road, Bow, E.
All parcels to 400 Old Ford Road,
Bow, E.

E.L.F.S. FIXTURES.

Friday, Feb. 18th.
Beckton Rd., 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier,
Mr. Dunstan.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs.
McLeod, Mrs. Drake.
Bow Women's Hall, 8 p.m., "Par-
liament."
Saturday, Feb. 19th.
Grundy St., 3 p.m., Miss Rickards,
Mrs. Drake.
Vernon Rd., 3 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Fairbairn Hall, 310 Barking Rd., 3 to
6 p.m., Children's Party.
Well St. & Morning Lane, 11 a.m.,
Mrs. Bouvier.
Sunday, Feb. 20th.
Victoria Park, 3 p.m., Mrs. Boyce.
Osborne St., 11.30 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier,
Miss Lynch.
The Grove, Stratford, 12 noon, Mrs.
Walker.
Poplar Women's Hall, 7.30 p.m., Miss
Dorothy Matthew, Mr. C. H.
Norman. Chair: Mrs. Drake.
Monday, Feb. 21st.
"Whitehouse," 4.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier,
Miss Lynch.
175 Dalston Lane, 3 p.m., Miss Lynch.
Tuesday, Feb. 22nd.
Bow Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs.
McLeod, Miss Lynch.
Poplar Women's Hall, 8 p.m., Mr.
Bracher, Mrs. Drake.
Salmon Lane, 6.30 p.m., Miss Feek.
Wednesday, Feb. 23rd.
Chrip St., 6.30 p.m., Mrs. Bouvier.
53 St. Leonard St., 3.30 p.m., Miss
Smyth.
Thursday, Feb. 24th.
175 Dalston Lane, 8 pm., Mrs. Bouvier.
55 Fife Rd., 3 p.m., Mrs. Cressall,
Miss S. Pankhurst.
Friday, Feb. 25th.
Kensington Town Hall, 8 p.m., Public
Meeting.
Poplar Women's Hall, 3 p.m., Mrs.
Drake.
Saturday, Feb. 26th.
Grundy St., 11.30 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.,
Miss Mary Richardson, Mrs. Drake.
Morpeth St., 11 a.m., Mrs. Bouvier,
Miss Lynch.
BOW BATHS, 3 to 7 p.m. and 8 to
10 p.m., ANNUAL CONFERENCE.
Sunday, Feb. 27th.
Special Self-Denial Meetings, 11 a.m.
to 1 p.m.
Hyde Park, 3 p.m., Miss Rickards,
Mrs. Leigh Rothwell.
Special Self-Denial Meetings, 3 p.m.
to 8 p.m.

COST PRICE RESTAURANTS—400 Old
Ford Road, Bow and 20 Railway Street,
Poplar. Dinners from 12 to 2 p.m.

MOTHERS AND BABIES.

The calls on our four mother and
baby centres, for milk, eggs, medicines,
and doctoring and nursing care, are
still very urgent. Will you help by
sending us some money for this work?
Will you send us new laid eggs,
arrowroot, barley, glaxo or virol?
We want:—For baby, four gowns, four
barrows, two flannel bands, twelve napkins,
three vests, and a cot blanket; for mother,
two nightgowns, woollen shawl, three
towels, two sheets, and a pair of pillow cases.

Mothers and Children should make
a point of attending the weekly con-
sultations with nurse and doctor at:—
400 Old Ford Rd., Bow, Mondays
2.30 p.m.; 20 Railway St., Poplar, Tues-
days 3 p.m.; 53 St. Leonard's St.,
Tuesdays 2 p.m.; 55 Fife Rd., Canning
Town, Tuesdays, 4 p.m.

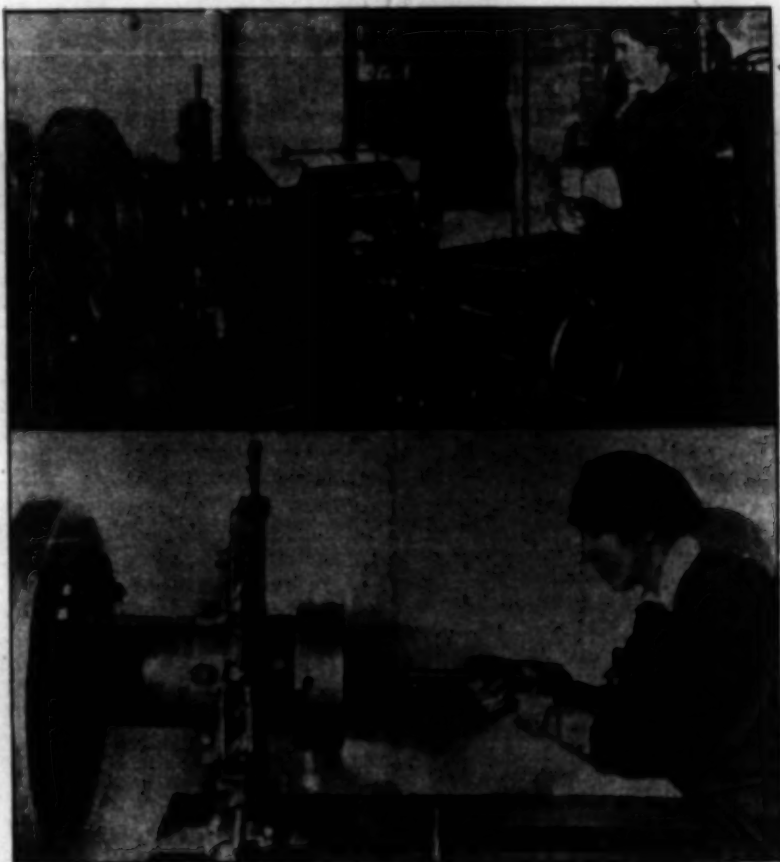
Garments for our Clothing Stalls are much
needed, and should be sent to the "Mother's
Arms," 438 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

PUBLIC MEETING,
KENSINGTON TOWN HALL,
Friday, February 25th, 8 p.m.

Speakers:
Dr. SALEEBY
Miss SYLVIA PANKHURST
Mr. GEORGE LANSBURY
Chair:
Dr. BARBARA TCHAYKOVSKY
ADMISSION FREE.
Reserved Seats - - - 2s. 6d., 1s., 6d.

SUNDAY MEETING,
February 20th, 7.30 p.m.
POPLAR WOMEN'S HALL,
20 Railway Street.

Speakers:
Miss DOROTHY MATTHEW,
Mr. C. H. NORMAN
on "Crimes of the Government."
Chair - - Mrs. DRAKE
Songs: Miss HELSBY.
Admission - - 2d.



BORING SIX-INCH SHELL.

LOCAL TRIBUNAL. Women Barred.

We learn that in forming the Poplar
Tribunal under the Military Service
Act, the seven members of the Tri-
bunal set up under the Derby Scheme
were taken as the nucleus, and seven
new members were appointed by the
Borough Council. The Labour Party
nominated Mr. George Lansbury, Mr.
J. Banks, Mr. A. A. Watts, Mr. March
and Mrs. Scurr. They also nominated,
without her knowledge, Miss Sylvia
Pankhurst, but Miss Pankhurst wishes
to make it clear that as she is opposed
to conscription, and to the War, she
objects to taking any part in admin-
istering the Military Service Act, and
would have declined a seat on the
Tribunal, had she been elected to it.

A majority of the Poplar Borough
Council decided to refuse to put any
women on the Tribunal, and refused
also to elect any of the nominees of
the Labour Party, except Mr. Banks
and Mr. March, but they elected two
other members of the Poplar Labour
Party—Mr. C. Sumner and Mr. D.
Adams.

RESIST CONSCRIPTION!

Men of military age who are deter-
mined to resist Conscription, have
two courses open to them:—They
may either ignore the Military Ser-
vice Act altogether, or they may
claim exemption and plead their case
before the Tribunals set up under the
Act.

If they decide on the latter course
they should obtain an Exemption
Form from the Clerk to the Local
Tribunal, at the offices of the Local
Authority, before March 1st. Who-
ever believes that all war is wrong,

or that this war is wrong, and who-
ever objects to Conscription, whether
military or industrial, will, of course,
claim absolute and complete exemp-
tion, and refuse any form of com-
pulsory service, whether in regard to
combatant or non-combatant work.

Objectors who decide to state their
case before a Tribunal will, of course,
make it clear that they do not intend
to abide by its ruling, should it decide
against them.

Those who are not exempted, or
who are only partially exempted by
the Local Tribunals, have the right
to take their case to the Appeal
Tribunal, and can insist upon doing
so, but they must appeal within three
days. The appeal must be written
on a form obtained from the Clerk to
the Local Tribunal, and must be sent
to the Local Tribunal, whose duty it
is to forward it to the Appeal
Tribunal.

The National Council Against Conscription.

President: ROBERT SMILLIE
INVITES

1. THE AFFILIATION of all organisations opposed
to Conscription.
2. IMMEDIATE OFFERS OF HELP in the work
of advising applicants for exemption and of
attending the courts to watch the admini-
stration of the Act by individuals and organisa-
tions in every part of Great Britain.
3. APPLICATIONS FOR ADVICE from all claiming
exemptions of any kind who are not already in
touch with similar organisations.

All communications should be addressed to—
THE SECRETARY,
National Council Against Conscription,
18 Bride Lane, LONDON, E.C.

Those who attend at the East London
Tribunals, in order to watch the interests
of men refusing Military service, should
communicate with us at 400 Old Ford Road,
Bow, E.

WOMEN'S LABOUR ON THE CLYDE.

MEN INSIST on EQUAL WAGES.
By P. J. DOLLAN.

From the standpoint of women
workers, the most significant incident
that has occurred in the Clyde area
during the war, has been the action
of the Johnstone engineers in stopping
work for five days in support of a
demand that all women introduced
to local engineering work under the
"dilution of labour" scheme should
receive the same minimum rates of
wages as the men doing the same
class of work. The Johnstone
engineers favour the employment of
women, provided they receive the
same wages as the men, and as a
consequence of their protest, the
principle of "equal wages for equal
work" is now to be considered by
the Government Commissioners and
employers and the trade unions in
the Clyde area.

Moreover the Clyde Workers'
Committee and the A.S.E. shop
stewards have decided to make the
principle of "equal pay for equal
work" the basis of the scheme which
they have agreed to submit to the
Government Commissioners as the
conditions under which they are
prepared to accept and operate dilu-
tion of labour. This is an indication
that the rank and file are prepared
to work alongside the women as
comrades—as equals—but that they
are opposed to the employment of
women if their employment is to be
used by the employers for the dual
purpose of augmenting profits and
lowering wages. Whilst the men are
adopting this encouraging attitude it
can only be effective if the women,
who are to make dilution of labour a
success, co-operate with them in de-
manding and establishing equal pay
for equal work. According to the
scheme put forward by the Clyde
workers, the first condition of the
operation of dilution is:—

**"THAT THE INCOME OF THE
NEW CLASS OF LABOUR BE
FIXED, NOT ON THE SEX, PRE-
VIOUS TRAINING, OR EXPER-
IENCE OF THE WORKER, BUT
UPON THE AMOUNT OF WORK
PERFORMED, BASED ON THE
RATES PREVIOUSLY OBTAIN-
ING FOR THE PARTICULAR
OPERATION."**

The above condition has been ac-
cepted as part of an agreement,
signed by the Government Commis-
sioners, Sir William Beardmore, and
the trade union shop stewards, which
is to govern the employment of
women and "unskilled" workers in
Parkhead Forge, Glasgow, one of the
largest munitions of war establish-
ments in the country. In Parkhead
Forge there are hundreds of women
making shells, and their product, both
as regards quantity and quality,
compares well, I am reliably informed,
with that of the men. In future
these women are to receive the same
wages as men when they become
"efficient," until they become "effi-
cient" each group of six women will
be supervised by a male operator
whose wages will be paid by the
women. That is to say that six
women in each group will receive
in the learning period the trade
union rates, minus the amount re-
quired to pay the wages of the
skilled operator. After the skilled
operator is dispensed with his wages
are automatically added to those of
the women whose labour he formerly
supervised. Under this scheme the
employers cannot benefit financially
by the employment of women mean-
time.

(Continued on back page.)

OUR ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

	£	s.	d.
Per inch ...	0	5	0
Per column ...	2	0	0
Per half-column ...	1	2	6
Per page ...	7	10	0
Per half-page ...	4	0	0

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5 per cent. reduction on a series of ten or more insertions; 25 per cent. reduction to working class organisations.

All communications should be sent to the—

ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER,
400 Old Ford Road, Bow, E.

The Woman's Dreadnought.

Published by the East London
Federation of the Suffragettes,

400 OLD FORD ROAD, BOW, E.
Telephone EAST 1787.

AGENTS:

INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE SHOP, 5 Duke Street, Charing
Cross, W.C.; CITY AND SUBURBAN PUBLISHING Co.,
St. Bride's Churchyard, E.C.; Messrs. HORACE MARSHALL
& Co., Temple Avenue, E.C.; MARLBOROUGH, 51 Old
Bailey, E.C.; A. BITCHIE, Finsbury Park, North London,
E.C.; A. RAGGETT, Clerk Street, Stepney, E.; JOHN
HAYWARD, Manchester; THE WHOLESALE SOCIETY,
10 Johnson Street, Bolton.

Can be obtained at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H.
SMITH & SONS & Messrs. WILLING, & all Newsagents.
Annual Subscription: Post free, 4s. 6d.

Vol. II. No. 48—Sat., Feb. 19th, 1916.

Bravely and willingly we bear our
share of the World's burdens. Why,
then, deny us the right to Vote, which
would dignify our labour and increase
our Power of Service?

LLOYD GEORGE "IN WONDERLAND."

The book on the employment of
women in munition factories, which
Mr. Lloyd George has issued, has
been greatly boomed by the Press, but
it is a very trivial document and bears
a close resemblance to the catalogues
which commercial firms issue to ad-
vertise their wares. This book is
designed as though Mr. Lloyd George
were a purveyor of women's labour,
anxious to sell it to the munition
manufacturers.

The questions of wages and work-
ing hours receive scant attention,
the brief references made to them are
intensely and perhaps intentionally
misleading. Accidents and prosecu-
tions have brought to light the
fact that certain firms have kept
women and girls working for as long
as from 25 to 37 hours at a stretch.
The Health of Munition Workers
Committee, appointed by Mr. Lloyd
George, has reported that men and
women have been employed contin-
uously for 90 hours a week, and that a
70 or 80 hour week is now the common
rule. The Committee recommends
that the women's hours should be
limited to 60 per week, exclusive of
meal times; the men's to 65 to 67.
The working hours of boys, the Com-
mittee suggests, should not be com-
pulsorily limited, but "every effort
should be made not to work boys
under 16 more than 60 hours a week."
These are the hours recommended as
an improvement on the present
practice.

Yet here is Mr. Lloyd George's
book implying that munition factories
usually employ their workers on three
shifts of eight hours "with two breaks
for meals, and an additional break of
ten minutes in the middle of the long
shift!"

Women's Wages.

The one reference made by Mr.
Lloyd George's book to wages is as
follows:—

"The male operator is responsible for
both machines and the total price paid
for the production of the two lathes is
the same as was originally paid when
two men worked these two machines.
The man gives the woman every possible
assistance, and when the total earnings of
the two machines are distributed, the divi-
sion is such as to considerably increase the
normal earnings of the male worker. It
cannot be too strongly emphasised that the
amount paid for the work is not reduced in
any way, so that the conditions laid down
by the Ministry of Munitions with regard to
the employment of women on work pre-
viously carried out by men are strictly ad-
hered to."

The above statement may be true
in some isolated instance, but in the
main it is disgracefully untrue. If it
were a truthful presentment of the

general case, the workers at Beard-
more's Parkhead Forge, Glasgow,
would not at the present be endeav-
ouring to wring from their employers
the agreement to prevent the under-
payment of women's labour, which is
explained in the article on our front
page by Councillor Dollan who has
an intimate knowledge of the local
conditions. As stated in that article,
women munition workers in the Clyde
area are usually paid less than 14s.
a week.

In the Manchester munitions area
the officials are still pleading vainly
for a £1 a week minimum wage for
the women workers. The Manches-
ter Women's War Interests Com-
mittee states that the time rate for
the majority of the adult women is
14s. a week. But this apparently
includes overtime, for in a case we
reported last week, the employer un-
blushingly stated that the wage of a
woman munition worker was 10s.
for a 50½ hour week. The woman
in question unsuccessfully appealed
to the Tribunal for permission to
leave her employment on the ground
that the payment was insufficient, the
President replying that she was
getting a "fair wage."

In the Birmingham area, the
Workers' Union has secured from the
Midland Employers' Federation an
agreement that women engaged on
work, which prior to the war was
done by men, shall receive the £1 a
week minimum, but as all the work
is differently sub-divided now, it is
often impossible to discover the
women who are doing precisely what
men did before.

The agreement secures that other
women employed in munition fac-
tories shall be paid as follows:—

Age.	Time rate.
	s. d.
14 years ..	7 0 per week.
15 ..	8 0 "
16 ..	9 0 "
17 ..	11 0 "
18 ..	13 0 "
19 ..	15 0 "
20 ..	15 0 "
21 ..	16 0 "

If these rates are not higher than those
previously earned, a War bonus is to be paid
of 1s. a week to workers under 17 years, 1s. 6d.
to those between 17 and 19, 2s. over 19.

Piece rates are expected to yield 25 per
cent. more than time rates "to a competent
worker."

These miserable rates are only
secured in factories where the
Workers' Union has a strong mem-
bership, and employers continually
strive to evade the agreement.

In the London area it is well known
that 3d. and 3½d. an hour are the
rates most commonly paid to women
munition workers.

It is sometimes stated that though
women may be sweated in the con-
trolled factories, in the Government's
own factories wages are high; but
the *Morning Post*, of February 12th,
published the reply of a woman
worker in Woolwich Arsenal itself,
who says: "The statement that the
women earn wages of 38s. and £2 a
week is ludicrously untrue!"

But indeed the actual fact is all
too glaringly apparent. Women
have come into munition work in
tremendous numbers and in the
overwhelming majority of cases they
are employed at sweated rates in what
has been a hitherto well-paid trade.

The evil is not confined to munition
work. Every day appear fresh in-
stances of the gross exploitation of
women's labour, both by the Govern-
ment and by private employers.

Cutting Down the Nurses' Pay.

The Army Council engaged nurses
to go to the front at £2 2s. a week—
then cut the salary down by half.
Now there is a further reduction.
Nurses at the front whose salary is
£40 a year have been paid:—

Field allowance	3s. per day
Billeting	2s. 3d. "
Fire and light	11d. " in winter
"	6d. " in summer
Washing	1s. 6d. "

The authorities have now deducted
the allowances both for billeting and
for fire and light.

2s. a Week and a Green Armlet.

Extensive efforts are being made
to draw women into agricultural
employment; the Government is ap-
pealing for 400,000 women for the

work. It is proposed to pay them
2s. a day, and it is hoped that they
will overlook the low wage if they
are induced to believe that they are
taking part in a patriotic effort by
the present of a green armlet. The
working class mother, especially if
she be a soldier's wife or widow, is to
be called from her home to work in the
fields, and her babies are to be looked
after by their elder sister, who may
be taken from school at eleven years
of age for the purpose. Even the
little girls and their brothers of
eleven may be put to work in the
fields, and the younger children (as
some, no doubt well-meaning, busy-
bodies are already suggesting to
soldiers' wives we know) can be put in
an orphanage.

To those who do not look beneath
the surface, it may all seem very
simple (though one soldier's widow
at least has protested "my children
are not orphans!")

The children, whose only little capital
for starting life is their brief years of
playtime and meagre elementary
school education, will be permanent
losers by the arrangement. If the
women are made to work long hours as
ruthlessly as the munition workers
have been, and are only paid 14s. a
week in these days of high prices,
their health will be wrecked by ex-
posure, under-nourishment, and hard
toil.

The original agricultural labourers,
who are faced with the inrush of
women's labour, have long struggled
to climb above the lowest rung of
the ladder of man's employment.
This might have been the golden
opportunity of these oppressed
workers, but we fear that mistaken
patriotism, reinforcing the pressure
exerted by employers with the
instinct of slave owners, will still
further degrade the position of the
agricultural labourer.

All these things should spur
women on to renewed efforts towards
emancipation. We shall always be
but feeble tools in the hands of the
exploiter till we are organised indus-
trially and have won THE VOTE.

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

IN PARLIAMENT.

Mr. Asquith's speech on the opening
of Parliament was exceedingly de-
pressing. The one thing for which
he told the people they must be
grateful, is that the French Govern-
ment has agreed to provide land for
cemeteries for our men.

He also said that the war is costing
more than £5,000,000 a day, that
there is to be largely increased
taxation, that imports are to be still
further curtailed and that public
expenditure is to be cut down.

In the House of Lords, Lord
Crewe referred to the large use of
"the woman power of the country"
by the Ministry of Munitions and
Lord Kitchener appealed to employers
to dismiss more of the young men.

The Hon. Arthur Stanley, Chair-
man of the Joint War Committee,
has initiated a scheme for a college
of nursing on a voluntary basis,
governed by a council of manage-
ment nominated by the chairmen and
governors of hospitals, physicians and
surgeons, principals of nurses' train-
ing schools, etc. This Council of
management is to nominate an exam-
ining board, arrange for a scheme for
examinations and certificates of pro-
ficiency, and generally to regulate
the nursing profession.

The National Council of Trained
Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland
is opposed to this scheme, and at
a meeting on February 12th this
Council unanimously adopted a
resolution, moved by Mrs. Bedford
Fenwick, to the effect that only
through an Act of Parliament pro-
viding for the State Registration of
trained nurses by an elected body, on
which the registered nurses them-
selves have direct and sufficient
representation, can the profession of
nursing be effectively and justly
organised, and that a voluntary
scheme, such as that proposed by
the Hon. Arthur Stanley, is calculated
to impede such legislation.

Dr. SCARLETT SINGE.

The report of the German Intern-
ment Camps by Dr. Ella Scarlett-
Synge, which we publish on page 427,
shows us very clearly that the treat-
ment of British men in Germany is
immensely superior to that meted out
in British prisons to British women,
who were law breakers in order that
they might become law makers. It
is interesting to note that even the
paltry and restricted privileges under
the so-called rule 243a, which the
women prisoners secured by the
terrible expedient of the hunger-strike,
were granted only on the condition
that the women agreed to perform
the work which the authorities might
direct. According to the report of
Dr. Synge, the British prisoners, as
a body, refuse to work, but they do
not appear to lose privileges in con-
sequence.

BACK TO THE LAND (?)

The suggestions for setting dis-
charged soldiers and sailors on the
land, put forward by the Committee
appointed by the President of the
Board of Agriculture, have a good
deal to recommend them, but much
depends upon the administration of
the scheme.

Soldiers and sailors and their
friends at home must be watchful
that this scheme is not used as
an excuse for withholding pensions
to those whose physique has been
broken down by war service, and who
are thus unfitted for heavy manual
labour or sustained work of any kind.
Care must be taken also to insure
that the men are not offered merely
a Hobson's choice, which will force
them to come under the scheme
whether they will or no, and that
those who voluntarily come under
the scheme have assured to them a
comfortable livelihood, not a bare
existence.

At the present time the lot of the
small-holder is, as a rule, most un-
enviable, unless he or she has some
other main means of livelihood. This
is largely due to the exorbitantly
high railway rates, because of which it
is more costly to send produce from
Essex to London than from France.

MILITARY ORDERS!

One of the E.L.F.S. members went to see
her son at Chisleton Camp, Wilts. She
arrived rather tired after the journey, having
had to start very early, so when her son met
her she went with him to a village cafe to
get a cup of tea. The proprietor told her,
however, that she could not be admitted
because she had "a lad in khaki" with her.
She tried each cafe, with the same result,
and eventually her son stood outside whilst
his mother had her tea!

"LIBERTY."

The Glasgow School Board has reprimanded Mr. James Maxton, M.A., assistant
and school master, and chairman of the
I.L.P. in Scotland, for going to the Bristol
Congress without permission.

He is to be transferred to another school
and will get no increase when salaries are
next revised.

In reply to the impertinent state-
ment by the Government that natural-
ised British subjects may make
"representations" to the Aliens Ad-
visory Committee, in lieu of obtaining
a fair trial, which may be denied
them under the Defence of the Realm
Act, the *Law Journal* says:—

"That, of course, is no equivalent to trial,
even though a Judge presides over the com-
mittee deputed to consider the 'representa-
tions,' for all the elementary conditions of a
trial are absent; there is no statement of the
facts constituting the charge, no indication
whatever of the evidence in support of it, no
opportunity for the accused to examine wit-
nesses or documents, no right even for him
to appear before his accusers or the com-
mittee. The privilege of making 'representa-
tions' is in these circumstances no
security; it is a mere mockery, for it imposes
on the accused the impossible burden of
proving a negative, and reverses entirely the
regular course of justice. Parliament can
never have intended to create such an
unheard-of situation for any British subject,
and it is the business of Parliament to redress
so intolerable a grievance."

Mr. Arthur Zadig, a British subject, who
was interned without trial, applied at the
Court of Appeal for a revision of that sen-
tence. The appeal was dismissed.

Mr. Asquith, when addressing an influ-
ential deputation on February 10th, which
protested against closing the museums,
said: "One speaker has referred to this econ-
omy as a 'fleabite.' I am not in the least
moved by the 'fleabite.' You must econo-
mise where you can in every direction."

That is true; Cabinet Ministers only
advocate economies or "fleabites" which
they do not feel.

IN SERBIA AND THE GERMAN INTERNMENT CAMPS.

BY Dr. SCARLETT SINGE.

It is with the wish to bring home the truth as I saw it during the ten months I was with the Germans after their capture of Batochina and the ten surrounding villages, of which I was Medical Officer of Health, that I am writing the following lines.

That Serbia is devastated to-day as the result of war—and relief work, chiefly in the way of food most necessary,—is a fact. The live stock has been paid for or requisition papers given, nothing was taken without the owners' permission, when the owners remained in possession. No soldiers looted—but they were allowed to take a shirt or a pair of boots if the house was empty—and they required such things. Their conduct to the inhabitants could not have been better, and the people were rapidly returning to their homes when I left, upon hearing from those who remained behind that the soldiers were behaving themselves. All the hens and chickens rapidly vanished, and a serious point is the slaughter of draught oxen, but all was, as I said before, paid for in cash, or a requisition paper given.

What sometimes happened was, if an artillery column came along and saw a stack of hay in a deserted yard, it was taken if required, but if the owner were near by, he or she would be paid for it.

I knew of one case where the German captain was trying to find which column had taken a certain stack of hay, but the column had vanished, and so had the hay, while the owner was away. Some of my own things were taken in this manner, because I had not anything written on my door, and of course I was in the school house, where my patients were, all day. If a paper were put on the door nothing was touched.

The German Red Cross work is magnificent. The Stabsarzt (Army Doctor) asked my permission and put his wounded men in the school house, where mine were, and we all worked most amicably together, my stock of things were all but exhausted, but all their dressings were at my disposal.

They use paper, specially prepared and sterilized, instead of cotton wool. I noticed quite a waste of dressing material, by that I mean, much more was used than necessary.

As soon as the wounded, Germans and Serbians alike, had received first aid at Batochina, they were placed in the serviceable field ambulances, drawn by two huge horses, and sent to Lapovo, for operation when necessary; from there they went by train to Austria and Germany, Serbians also. Some Serbian wounded hid themselves in a house and were very sorry when they missed being taken to Germany. I tried to get them fetched, but all the horses had gone, and there was no means of transport left for them; it was their

own fault and they recognised it too late.

I asked permission to go to Berlin and inspect prisoner of war camps there, representing that I had acted in a similar official capacity for the British Government in South Africa, and had since then taken a special degree in sanitation. This permission was granted and by a wonderful series of fortunate episodes, I crossed three hostile frontiers—Hungary, Austria and Germany, without a single official paper that was in order. The Red Cross doctor at Lapovo gave me a piece of note paper passing me from one Red Cross doctor to the other, and so I reached Belgrade. At Belgrade I wrote to the Austrian General, who allowed the Hungarian police to give me a permit to travel. I found at Buda Pesth, however, that the woman at the ticket office would not let me buy my ticket on this permit, as my photograph was not on it, and the silly thing issued me the ticket upon my showing her my photo on the Canadian passport—I had all the luck!

None could believe in Berlin that I was British, and that I had got through. I believe they are still enquiring as to how it was achieved. Everywhere I said "I was an English doctor from Canada."

The important matter now is to get a Scientific Sanitary Commissioner going from each country to mutually inspect camps with a view towards improving the tone in the Press, and the general feeling of the nations towards each other, which can be done when each knows the truth as well as the lies.

In a few years time I foresee that we shall have the old and natural alliance with Germany back—the great sea power and the great land power—will guarantee sufficiently the peace of the world; and while it is too early to speak of that yet, still in the meantime we may, and can, respect one another.

Prisoners of War Camp at Göttingen.

The camp contains about 10,000 prisoners of war, of whom 1,000 are English, who are housed in 84 barracks, 30 metres long, and 10 metres wide, each containing 120 sleeping cots, all of which are clean, each man having a mattress, pillow and two woollen blankets. Another 6,000 prisoners of war are expected, and further barracks are being erected. All barracks are on solid brick foundations, having wooden floors, suitable ventilation, and are well trenced.

HOSPITAL.—The head surgeon, Dr. Schwartzbauer, has a wide reputation, and Dr. Rieman was very popular with the patients; 14 barracks were set apart for hospital and tubercular cases, which latter are isolated.

Every patient has his own basin and towel.

A new operating room has just been completed, with bath room and anæsthetising room; floor of cement and well drained, well lighted, painted white; 308 patients were in the hospital—there is room for 520; isolation quarters are ready if needed. In 16 months there have been 16 deaths.

DISPENSARY.—A qualified chemist, with an excellent supply of drugs and appliances.

DISINFECTING BUILDING.—This and the laundry are the best features of the camp, for, although everything else is as it should be, and far better than it would have been right to expect, still, these two installations are absolute models. The disinfecting house contains three rooms, and is most ingeniously planned. It contains a Duisburg generator.

THE LAUNDRY.—His cement-floored rooms for soiled linen, into which opens the wash-house proper, containing three large wash drums and two centrifugal machines, also having cement floor. Plenty of hot and cold water is at hand, and a third room containing a hot air drying chamber, having one partition for each barrack. A mangle was also in working order. Laundry is heated by radiator. Close by are 24 shower baths which can be used when desired.

WATER SUPPLY.—Taps and pumps from town water supply. An excellent feature are the cement floors round each pump, where the men can wash anything they wish on tables, and at all times they can fetch hot water.

SANITARY SYSTEM.—Water-borne system. To-day was freezing, and in consequence, the water was turned off, the building inspected, and while the pipe was being protected no nuisance obtains. The pumps outside were all wrapped in straw and worked well. Cement boxes at intervals for rubbish, and a separate box for empty tins.

RECREATIONS.—Well laid-out gardens everywhere. Pets allowed. Self-made musical instruments and a fair orchestra. The Russian Balalaika, a stringed instrument, is made in camp, and an artist played Russian national airs after the manner of a born musician.

THEATRE.—An excellent opera scene was being performed as we visited the theatre. There is plenty of room for exercise within the camp limits. But no football or tennis spaces.

Ju-jitsu is taught, also boxing, and instruction in athletics in special barracks.

LIBRARY.—7,000 books in several languages, and much used harmoniums and pianos are in the camp.

SCHOOL.—Two barracks are available and used for instruction. Maps

were on the wall, and much advantage was taken of the courses offered, and lectures were attended. Count de Baumont, a celebrated painter from Paris, teaches his art to a class of students, and Monsieur Paillet, an advocate from Arras, gives instruction in various subjects, both these professors are prisoners of war.

Prof. Stange, of the University of Göttingen, directs all the instruction given in the camp. He is there each day, has his own office, gives lectures, and superintends the library.

Wittenberg bei Halle a/S Prisoner of War Camp.

Many of the parcels from England are shockingly packed—thin brown paper and poor string. Usually something is missing, and, indeed, it is a wonder many ever arrive at all. The French parcels are the only ones well packed, in small wooden boxes sewn up in canvas, and address well marked.

A questionable feature of all these camps consists in the large number of able-bodied unemployed Englishmen. Remuneration can be earned for work, and of this circumstance other nationalities take advantage. I was informed that the English prisoners of war will not consent to work, and I am unaware of the reasons for such a refusal.

In view of the grave difficulties which will arise from a large body of idle men, who have had everything provided for them during a considerable period of self-imposed unemployment, returning to their native land, and being thrown upon their own resources, this point is of great importance. It is a question, both social and economic, with which, in the future, we shall have considerable difficulty in coping.

Prisoner of War Camp Giessen, South Germany.

POST OFFICE AND PARCELS.—The best feature of this camp is the post office in charge of an officer, whose heart is in his endeavour to make a success of his work. He had a large building apart from the rest of the camp, where 80 trusted prisoners of war are at work; 84,000 parcels were dealt with in November. As we arrived, a huge auto came up, of which I wished I could have taken a photograph. It was stated that many parcels could not be delivered as they were so carelessly repacked by the English censor, so as to be untraceable. I saw a tub full of such relics, and saw some arrive in such a damaged condition that name of owner could not be discerned upon it, or the whole of the paper wrapper was missing, or the paper arrived and the parcel did not.

The Camp of Ruhleben.

The best feature of the camp is the school. This is in the upper floor of a large building, which is divided by canvas into many rooms. There are 1,400 scholars daily. All languages are taught, even Chinese. Many studied German, and prizes are given for the most proficient.

There is another building where cinematograph pictures are shown three times a day. The prisoners pay ten cents each, entrance fee, which goes towards the purchase of new films. I saw one amusing picture which everyone liked. Moving pictures have been taken of the life of Ruhleben, and will be shown later. Nine tennis courts and very large football grounds.

CANTEEN.—There is a whole row of shops in which the prisoners of war practise their trade, as watch makers, boot makers, etc. The canteen was excellent; 2,000 eggs formerly were used daily, but they are now hard to obtain, and 1,200 are sold a week. Fruit can be bought for the same price as in town.

There is a small Catholic Chapel, with a beautiful tapestry of the Madonna from Munich, and a wooden carving of the head of Christ, a work of one of the prisoners of war, which was of great artistic value. This Chapel should be better ventilated.

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GENERAL FUND—Mrs. Garner 1.0.0, Miss E. Gore Browne (monthly) 7.0, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Ball 5.0, Miss Ada Farmer 3.0, Miss Dale-Glossop 2.0.

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COLLECTIONS—Stocking Dept. L.S.A. 1.13.6, Toolroom L.S.A. 1.9.11, Bow Clinic 1.1.6, Miss Broadbent 14.7.7, Employees of Messrs. Ross, Ltd., per Mrs. Young 11.6, Bromley Clinic 10.10, Anon 10.5, Bromley Milk Collection 9.8, Bow Open-air Meetings 8.10.4, Miss Lynch 8.7.4, Women's Hall 5.6.

CLOTHES—Mrs. Bentley (U.S.A.), Miss Handley (Natal), Mrs. Sell, Mrs. Bates (U.S.A.), Miss Wilson, Misses Halliday Gibson, Anon, Miss Dale-Glossop, Mrs. Brabner.

PUSH CART—Mrs. Farnes. TEA—Mrs. Sudd Brown, Canning Town Party—Mrs. Bullock.

Mr. George Bernard Shaw has very kindly judged the children's reports of the Poplar Party.

The prize essay, together with Mr. Shaw's criticisms, will appear in our issue of next week. The prize-winner and other contributors will be presented with Mr. Shaw's autograph, corrections and criticisms.

The Dundee Branch of the No-Conscription Fellowship held a meeting on February 13th, in Albert Square, under the auspices of the Joint Committee formed to repeal the Military Service Act. The speakers were Councillor Brown, Mr. Douglas, N.P. and R.P., Mr. Eddie, I.L.P., and others.

The Chairman said that the Government was looking for backbone in the nation, and that the young men of military age should prove that they possessed backbone by resisting the Act. Mr. Eddie said that he was proud to be one of the objectors who were called shirkers. There was a good sale of literature and a collection in aid of victimised men. There will be another meeting in Albert Square next Sunday at 2.30 p.m. Those who live in or near Dundee should make a point of being there! Mr. James Maxton, N.A.C., will be the speaker.

The Executive Committee of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks is moving a resolution at the Union's Annual Meeting at Cardiff next Easter, in favour of raising the school age for children to 16 years.

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Dreadnought sales week ending Feb. 19th -1,038. Miss O'Brien 230, Miss Lynch 215, Mrs. Holloway 200, Miss Bennett 110, Miss Smyth 68, Mrs. Savoy 48, Mrs. Farrall 40, Miss Sands 24, Mrs. Eglinton 18, Miss King 20, Mrs. Pascoe 12. General Sales 55.

POPLAR.

Dreadnoughts sold week ending Feb. 12th -324. Miss Kiley 70, Miss Vine 55, Mrs. Shlette 52, Mrs. Rounce 14.

BROMLEY.

Dreadnought sales, per Mrs. Payne-94.

LIMEHOUSE.

Mrs. Bird 122.

OUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Public Halls Committee of the Poplar Borough Council has refused to let Bow Baths Hall for the E.L.F.S. Conference, on Sunday, on the plea that it is a political meeting.

The Conference has therefore been transferred to Saturday, February 26th, from 4 to 7, and 8 to 10 p.m. Tea at 400 Old Ford Rd. at 7.15 p.m.

There will be no General Meeting on Monday, February 21st.

AN INDIAN PLAY

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The British Government insists upon arming its merchantmen and the German Government insists on making war on armed merchantmen; and it is said that for this purpose Germany has now provided itself with a larger type of submarine, fitted with powerful guns. In the dispute between the belligerent Governments, the non-combatants are sacrificed!

"I am far from saying that Governments are necessarily a curse to those they govern, but woe to that nation which allows its Government to regulate from day to day, and youth to old age, its ideas and its intellectual developments. It is the glory of France and England that we allow a free career, not only to talents but to ideas, and in this the Press takes a leading part."—Mr. Herbert Samuel, Home Secretary, at the Savoy dinner to the French journalists. But why has the British cut off the "free career" of the ideas expressed by *The Worker*, *The Forward*, and other papers?

A MODEL LAUNDRY.—Family work a speciality. Daily fabrics of every description treated with special care. Flannels and silks washed in distilled water. No chemicals used. Best labour only employed. Prompt collection; prompt delivery.—Bullens, Cressy House Laundry, Reynolds Road, Acton Green, W.

Continued from front page.

Hitherto the women, though organised, and active, were unable to establish the principle of equal pay for equal work, and it was only when the men became aware of the danger of a large incursion of cheap labour to their industry that they came to the assistance of the women by forcing the employers and the Government Commissioners to recognise the principle. This seems to indicate that men and women, where they are working together, must co-operate and work on a common platform for the realisation of their mutual objective and the removal of their common grievances. Men and women munition workers united, can achieve everything within reason for the immediate amelioration of their grievances.

The agreement reached at Parkhead Forge will further the co-operation of men and women workers, and in that way help to destroy that antagonism which capitalism fosters between the sexes by using the labour of women to cheapen the labour of men. Unfortunately other employers on the Clyde are still inclined to foster that antagonism as—except Parkhead Forge—employers, all of them, are refusing to observe the principle of equal pay for equal work. These exploiting employers admit that women are doing the same work as men and with equal success; but they refuse to pay them men's wages, thereby encouraging the belief of many trade unionists that "dilution of labour" is to be used to augment profits and dividends at the expense of wages.

Thus at one workshop in the Clyde area women munition workers, employed under the "dilution of labour" scheme, are receiving a maximum of 14s. as time rate for doing work done by men earning a minimum of 9d. per hour! The same disparity exists with regard to piece-rates and in the circumstances it is not surprising that 150 men were dismissed from the above workshop last week, and their places given to women. The men were classed as "semi-skilled" workers and were earning 8d. per hour: the women are to get 12s. to 14s. per week! These facts make it plain that some employers want dilution to lower wages and increase profits, and the male workers naturally object to any further dilution unless they receive a Government guarantee that equal pay for equal work will obtain wherever dilution of labour is introduced.

Now that the Clyde Workers' Committee and the A.S.E. shop stewards have definitely decided to enforce the equal pay for equal work principle, it behoves the women organisations in the Clyde area to encourage the women to demand equal wages also. Men and women must co-operate with each other on this question, and if they do co-operate their success is assured. This is the woman worker's opportunity, and she must not let it pass. Now is the time to establish economic equality for the men and women employed in the production and manufacture of munitions, and it will be the workers' own fault if they allow the chance of the century to pass without directing it towards the gain of their class.

FAVOURITISM.

The offices of the W.S.P.U. were raided on the 14th inst. Copies of *Britannia* were seized.

At a City meeting, at Cannon St. Hotel, Lord Devonport and Mr. Gibson Bowles made speeches condemning Mr. Asquith, Sir Edward Grey, and Lloyd George; but here the Defence of the Realm Act has not been put in force.

What is sauce for the goose ought also to be sauce for the gander!

G.B.S. on "Wanted, a Coalition of the Intelligentsia," in the *New Statesman*, says: "We loathe the war as an abomination forced on us by a crude and corrupt people long after we have outgrown it. Being unable to suppress it, we would like to obtain control of it sufficiently to dictate its aims and define its limits. But though we write the most intelligent, interesting and suggestive articles, we might as well discharge pop-guns."

WAGES OF MUNITIONEERS.

The *Times* states that there are at present three women to one man, and that there will shortly be five or six women to one man in munition factories.

This shows the paramount importance of securing that the woman worker shall be powerfully organised and adequately paid.

At Manchester, a woman munitioner got a discharge on the ground of illness due to her employment.

She had been in receipt of 10s. a week!

A woman munition worker at Woolwich, writing to the *Morning Post*, complains of working in a Government factory where there is no canteen, so that, on one occasion, when through lack of fuel there was no fire, they had to labour through the night without even a drink!

Women munitioners at Creed & Bille's, in Croydon, a controlled factory, get 10s. 5d. per week now, they previously received 8s.

Forewoman in charge of 57 workers, receives 12s. 6d. For work for which men received from £2 to £3, women get 12s. 6d.

Premium bonus system in force, mainly used for speeding up.

Well-to-do ladies earn as much as 35s., one has a husband in a bank, and a son who gives her an allowance.

The great drawback in allowing middle-class, well nurtured women to do this work is that they stand the strain better than their underfed sisters, and so out them from earning their living. Naturally the employer gains.

Woolwich Arsenal has about 10,000 boys working. A smart boy can earn from 30s. to £2 a week.

Conditions of work are trying; some leave home at 6.30 a.m., and do not get home till 9.30 p.m.

A further report of the Health of Munition Workers' Committee shows that highly skilled workers have worked as much as 90 hours a week, now 70 to 80 hours is more usual. Sixty-five hours a week is recommended as the maximum for adults, 60 for boys under 16.

The practice in certain districts of working from Friday morning, all through Friday night and until noon on Saturday should be discontinued.

The long hours spent on the journey each way in overcrowded trams or trains, the waiting and struggle for room are all condemned.

Family life is almost impossible, mothers and grown children make munitions, younger ones suffer neglect at home.

Beds are never empty, rooms never aired, as the day and night shifts prevent this in overcrowded and poor districts.

IN FRANCE.

High profits are being made by the munition manufacturers. The Government pays 12 francs for the shell for the 75 inch gun, and the profit, according to M. Merrheim of the French metal workers' federation, is 200 per cent.

Wages have gone down since the War by 40 per cent., whilst the cost of living has increased from 40 to 60 per cent. Mobilised men are paid less than non-mobilised men, and are sent to the front or punished by Court Martial if they complain. Non-mobilised men are earning 1s. an hour, working side by side with mobilised men paid only 5d. to 7d.

Children are employed on night work, and M. Merrheim quotes a factory where the children are given black coffee with brandy in it, when they get sleepy at midnight.

In Paris, before the War, the normal wage of metal workers was 1 f. 30 c. (1s. 1d.) an hour. At the beginning of the war this was reduced to 75 centimes (7d.) an hour. It is now from 50 to 70 centimes (5d. to 7d.). Some mobilised men, who are skilled mechanics, only get 65 centimes (6d.) an hour. At the Renault motor factory, employing 8,000 workers, the majority of men get 7d., whilst "the exploitation of women and children surpasses anything that could be imagined."

At Bordeaux, 800 women making metal boxes are paid 2 francs (1s. 8d.) for a 10-hour day; a few earn as much as 3 francs. Their piece-work rates are one-third those of the men, though their output is equal.

At Castelsarrasin (Tarn-et-Garonne), at the works of the Société Française des Métaux, all ranks of workmen are treated as unskilled, and paid 3jd. an hour, and 2jd. a day war bonus. On certain machines four women paid 1 f. 75 c. a day were put to do the work of two men, who had been paid 5 or 6 fcs. a day. Then the number of women was reduced to two, and finally to one.

Castellerault (Haute-Vienne), women earn 3 f. 80c. a day on time rates.

At Saint Juery, where the women's output equals that of the men, they cannot earn more than 3 francs (2s. 6d.) a day, whereas the men earn from 3.75 francs (3s. 1d.) to 6 francs (5s.) daily. They finish work at about 4 a.m., and have only a few hours for sleep, as they have to get their house-work done.

A DOCTORED REPORT.

Messrs. J. T. Brownlie (Chairman of the A.S.E.), H. Duckham, D. J. Shackleton and Allan M. Smith, have been sent by the British Government to visit the French munition factories, and obediently following the wishes of the Government, they have produced a report in praise of the French workers' patriotism, in which they say that the men have "welcomed the introduction of women into the factories and are doing everything they can to instruct and co-operate with them in increasing the output of munitions." They also state that "no applications for general advances in wages have been made by the workpeople. . . . No trade union restrictions exist. . . . No limitation of profits exists and no question in this respect has been raised by the workpeople."

Instead of recording such a painful state of affairs with protest and regret, the four ex-trade union leaders put it forward as an evidence that the French workers "realise that they are at war," and as a reason why British workers should allow British capitalists to ride rough-shod over them.

It is important to note that Messrs. Brownlie, Duckham, Shackleton and Smith did not communicate with the French trade unionists, from whom they might have obtained reliable information.

Perhaps this is why they made the mistake of stating that "the same piece-work prices are paid to women as to men." The reports sent over by the French workers' own organisations show this statement to be untrue.

PUBLIC MEETING, LEAGUE OF RIGHTS

February 21st, at 8 p.m.

WOMEN'S HALL, 400 Old Ford Road, Bow

Speakers—SYLVIA PANKHURST, G. LANSBURY, Mrs. ADA THOMPSON, Mrs. CRESSALL, Mr. A. A. WATTS. ADMISSION FREE.

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